



CSCP Support Materials: Student Booklet

Eduqas GCSE Latin  
Component 3A

**Latin Literature (Prose option)**  
**Suetonius: Nero**

For examination in 2024 - 2025

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Cover image: Silver Denarius of Nero, Rome, AD 64 - AD 65 American Numismatic Society

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### *Using this Document*

Please note that students will not be expected to translate a section of text in this examination, although they are expected to show detailed knowledge and comprehension of the text throughout, and that they understand the meaning of any quotations they use.

***N. B. The coloured passages in italics are summaries of events to support understanding of the narrative. They are not part of the prescription.***

*Suetonius: Nero 8, 9, 10, 11, 26, 33, 34,  
35, 36, 38, 47, 48, 49, 50, 57*

*Nero was born in Antium, south of Rome, on the 15<sup>th</sup> December AD 37. There were many unfavourable comments about his birth, and even his father, Gnaeus Domitius Ahenobarbus, said that any child born to him and his wife, Agrippina, could be nothing but detestable and a danger to the public. The young Nero's early life was difficult, as his uncle Gaius (Caligula) seized the boy's inheritance and banished his mother. He was then brought up by his aunt, Domitia Lepida.*

*When Claudius became emperor in AD 41, Nero regained his inheritance and received a legacy from his stepfather. His mother was recalled from exile, and her influence in court caused some to view him as a rival to Claudius' son, Britannicus. It was rumoured that Claudius' wife, Messalina, made an attempt on his life, and that the boy was only saved when a snake slithered from beneath his pillow. When Claudius married Agrippina in AD 54, Nero was adopted by the emperor, and three years later married Octavia, Claudius' daughter.*

## Section A

Nero was nearly seventeen when Claudius' death was announced. In the afternoon he went to meet the guards since, due to bad omens, no earlier time was suitable. He was hailed as emperor in front of the palace steps and was taken in a litter to the camp of the Praetorian Guard where he briefly

**5** addressed the soldiers. Then he was taken to the Senate, where he stayed until evening, while they heaped endless honours on him; he refused only one, the name 'Father of his Country', because he felt he was too young.

## Notes

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## Section B

- 1 orsus hinc ab ostentatione pietatis Claudium apparatissimo
- 2 funere elatum laudavit et consecravit.

1 ordior, -iri, orsus sum - *begin*  
hinc - *from this point*  
ab + abl. - *by, with, from*  
ostentatio, -ionis, f. - *display, show*  
pietas, -atis, f. - *duty*  
Claudius, -ii, m. - *Claudius (emperor and Nero's great uncle)*  
apparatus, -a, -um - *magnificent*

2 funus, -eris, n. - *funeral*  
efferro, efferre, extuli, elatus - *carry out*  
laudo, -are, -avi - *praise*  
et - *and*  
consecro, -are, -avi - *deify, make a god*

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## Section B

- 4 primo etiam imperii die
- 5 signum excubanti tribuno dedit 'optimam matrem' ac deinceps
- 6 eiusdem saepe lectica per publicum simul vectus est.

4 primus, -a, -um - *first*  
etiam - *even*  
imperium, -ii, n. - *power*  
dies, -ei, m./ f. - *day*

5 signum, -i, n. - *password, sign*  
excubo, -ere - *keep watch, be on duty*  
tribunus, -i, m. - *tribune, military officer*  
do, dare, dedi, datus - *give*  
bonus, -a, -um - *best*

mater, -tris, f. - *mother*  
ac - *and*

deinceps - *thereafter, on the following days*

6 idem, eadem, idem - *same*

saepe - *often*

lectica, -ae, f. - *litter, sedan chair*

per + acc. - *through*

publicum, -i, n. - *public space*

simul - *at the same time, together*

veho, -ere, vexi, vectus - *carry*

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## Section B

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Antium

7 coloniam deduxit, ascriptis veteranis e praetorio additisque

8 per domicili translationem ditissimis primipilarium, ubi et

9 portum operis sumptuosissimi fecit.

6 Antium, -ii, n. - *Antium* (Nero's birthplace).

7 colonia, -ae, f. - *colony, settlement*  
deduco, -ere, -duxi, -ductus - *found, establish*  
adscribo, -ere, scripsi, scriptus - *enrol*  
veteranus, -a, -um - *veteran, experienced former soldier*  
e + abl. - *from, formerly part of*  
praetorius, -i, m. - *praetorian guard*  
addo, -ere, -didi, -ditus - *add*  
(-que – *and*)  
per + acc. - *by means of*

8 domicilium, -i, n. - *home, residence*  
translatio, -ionis, f. - *transfer*  
dives, divitis – *rich*  
(*superlative: divitissimus -a -um*)  
ditissimis = *divitissimis*  
primipilaris, -is, m. - *senior centurion*  
ubi - *where, in which place*  
et - *also*

9 portus, -us, m. - *harbour*  
opus, operis, n. - *project*  
sumptuosus, -a, -um - *expensive*  
facio, -ere, feci, factus - *build, construct*

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## Section B

- 9   atque ut certiolem adhuc
- 10 indolem ostenderet, ex Augusti praescripto imperatum se
- 11 professus, neque liberalitatis neque clementiae, ne comitatis
- 12 quidem exhibendae ullam occasionem omisit.

- 9 atque - *even, and*  
ut + subjunctive - *in order to*  
certus, -a, -um - *certain*  
adhuc - *so far*
- 10 indoles, -is, f. - *nature, character*  
ostendo, -ere - *display, show*  
ex + abl. - *according to*  
Augustus, -i, m. - *Augustus, great-  
great-grandfather of Nero and  
founder of the Julio-Claudian line of  
Caesars.*  
praescriptum, -i, n. - *principle, precept*  
impero, -are, -avi, -atus - *rule*  
se - *himself*

- 11 profiteor, profiteri, professus sum -  
*declare publicly*  
neque ... neque - *neither ... nor*  
liberalitas, -atis, f. - *generosity*  
clementia, -ae, f. - *mercy*  
ne - *not*  
comitas, -atis, f. - *friendliness*
- 12 quidem - *even*  
ne ... quidem - *not even*  
exhibeo, -ere, -ui, -itus - *show, exhibit*  
ullus, -a, -um - *any*  
occasio, occasionis, f. - *opportunity*  
omitto, -ere, -misi, -missus - *let go,  
miss*

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## Section C

- 1 spectaculorum plurima et varia genera edidit: iuvenales,
- 2 circenses, scaenicos ludos, gladiatorium munus.

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 spectaculum, -i, n. - <i>show, spectacle</i><br/> multi, -ae, -a – <i>many</i><br/> <i>(superlative plurimi, -ae, -a)</i><br/> et - <i>and</i><br/> varius, -a, -um - <i>different</i><br/> genus, -eris, n. - <i>type, sort</i><br/> edo, -ere, edidi, editus - <i>give, sponsor</i><br/> iuvenalis, -e - <i>youth games</i></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 circensis, -e - <i>of the Circus Maximus</i><br/> <i>(race track in Rome)</i><br/> circenses – <i>chariot races</i><br/> scaenicus, -a, -um - <i>for the stage</i><br/> ludus, -i, m. - <i>show, play, game</i><br/> gladiatorius, -a, -um - <i>gladiatorial, to</i><br/> <i>do with gladiators</i><br/> munus, -eris, n. - <i>show, entertainment</i></li> </ol> |
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## Section C

- 2 iuvenalibus  
3 senes quoque consulares anusque matronas recepit ad  
4 lusum.

- 2 iuvenalis, -e - *youth games*  
3 senex, senis, m. - *old man*  
quoque - *as well as, also*  
consularis, -e - *consular, of the rank of consul*  
anus, -us, f. - *old woman (-que – and)*  
matrona, -ae, f. - *married woman*  
recipio, -ere, -cepi - *receive, welcome to an event*  
ad + acc. - *to*  
4 lusus, -us, m. - *game, amusement*
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## Section C

4            circensibus loca equiti secreta a ceteris tribuit

5   commisitque etiam camelorum quadrigas.

- 4   circensis, -e - *of the Circus Maximus (race track in Rome)*  
    *circensibus – chariot races*  
locum, -i, n. - *seat, place to sit*  
eques, -itis, m. - *equestrian order (social class between the senators and the plebs)*  
secretus, -a, -um - *separate, apart from*  
a + abl. - *from*

- ceterus, -a, -um - *remaining, the rest*  
tribuo, -ere, -ui - *assign, allot*  
5   committo, -ere, -misi - *set together (to race) (-que – and)*  
etiam - *even*  
camelus, -i, m. - *camel*  
quadriga, -ae, f. - *a type of chariot drawn by four horses*

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## Section C

- 5 ludis, quos pro  
6 aeternitate imperii susceptos appellari maximos voluit, ex  
7 utroque ordine et sexu plerique ludicras partes sustinuerunt;

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 5 | ludus, -i, m. - <i>game, entertainment</i><br>qui, quae, quod - <i>which</i><br>pro + abl. - <i>for the sake of</i>  |   |  |
| 6 | aeternitas, -atis, f. - <i>immortality, permanence</i><br>imperium, -ii, n. - <i>reign, power</i><br>suscipio, -ere, -cepi, susceptus - <i>undertake</i><br>appello, -are - <i>call, name</i><br>magnus, -a, -um - <i>great, large</i><br>( <i>superlative</i> : maximus, -a, -um) | 7 | volo, velle, volui - <i>want</i><br>ex + abl. - <i>from, out of</i><br>uterque, utraque, utrumque - <i>both</i><br>ordo, -inis, m. - <i>order, rank</i><br>et - <i>and</i><br>sexus, -us, m. - <i>sex (male or female)</i><br>plerique, pleraeque, pleraque - <i>most, very many</i><br>ludicra, -a, -um - <i>on-stage</i><br>pars, partis, f. - <i>role</i><br>sustineo, -ere, -ui - <i>take on</i> |



## Section C

- 11 sparsa et
- 12 populo missilia omnium rerum per omnes dies: singula cotidie
- 13 milia avium cuiusque generis, multiplex penus, tesserae
- 14 frumentariae, vestis, aurum, argentum, gemmae, margaritae,
- 15 tabulae pictae, mancipia, iumenta atque etiam mansuetae
- 16 ferae, novissime naves, insulae, agri.
- 
- 11 spargo, -ere, sparsi, sparsus - *scatter*  
sparsa (sunt) – *were scattered*  
et - *and, also*
- 12 populus, -i, m. - *crowd*  
missilia, -iorum, n. pl. - *presents*  
*thrown by the Emperor*  
omnis, -e - *all*  
res, rei, f. - *sort, type*  
per + acc. - *through, throughout*  
dies, -ei, m/f. - *day*  
singulus, -a, -um - *single, one, each*  
cotidie - *every day*  
singula cotidie – *on every single day*
- 13 mille, n. milia pl. - *thousand*  
avis, -is, f. - *bird*  
quisque, quaeque, quodque - *every,*  
*each, whoever, whatever*  
genus, -eris, n. - *type*  
multiplex, -icis - *numerous*  
penus, -us m/f. - *food parcel,*  
*provisions*
- 14 tessera, -ae, f. - *token*  
frumentarius, -a, -um - *of corn*  
vestis, -is, f. - *clothing*  
aurum, -i, n. - *gold*  
argentum, -i, n. - *silver*  
gemma, -ae, f. - *jewel*  
margarita, -ae, f. - *pearl*
- 15 tabula, -ae, f. - *panel*  
pictus, -a, -um - *painted*  
mancipium, -i, n. - *slave*  
iumentum, -i, n. - *pack animal*  
atque - *and*  
etiam - *even*  
mansuetus, -a, -um - *tame*
- 16 fera, -ae, f. - *wild beast*  
novissime - *finally*  
navis, -is, f. - *ship*  
insula, -ae, f. - *tenement building,*  
*block of flats*  
ager, agri, m. - *field, land*
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*Nero introduced a lot of positive improvements to Rome. Amongst other things he adapted the architecture of Roman houses so that there was a fire-fighting platform in front of them. He held gladiatorial combats in the Campus Martius where no one was to be killed, though he famously inflicted punishments on Christians. He also forbade charioteers to wander the streets after dark robbing passers-by, and seems to have made attempts to stop the forgery of wills. Nero visited Greece, where he tried to have a canal cut through the Isthmus of Corinth and he took part in musical contests and theatrical performances, at which he always seemed to do rather well. However, not everything he did was good.*

## Section D

- 1 petulantiam, libidinem, luxuriam, avaritiam, crudelitatem
- 2 sensim quidem primo et occulte et velut iuvenili errore
- 3 exercuit, sed ut tunc quoque dubium nemini foret naturae illa
- 4 vitia, non aetatis esse.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 petulantia, -ae, f. - <i>impudence</i><br/>libido, -inis, f. - <i>desire, pleasure</i><br/>luxuria, -ae, f. - <i>extravagance</i><br/>avaritia, -ae, f. - <i>greed</i><br/>crudelitas, -atis, f. - <i>cruelty</i></p> <p>2 sensim - <i>gradually</i><br/>quidem - <i>at least</i><br/>primo - <i>at first</i><br/>et ... et - <i>both ... and</i><br/>occulte - <i>in secret, secretly</i><br/>velut - <i>as if</i><br/>iuvenilis, -e - <i>youthful</i><br/>error, -oris, m. - <i>mistake</i></p> | <p>3 exerceo, -ere, -ui - <i>practise</i><br/>sed - <i>but</i><br/>ut - <i>so that</i><br/>tunc - <i>then</i><br/>quoque - <i>even, also</i><br/>dubium, -i, n. - <i>doubt</i><br/>nemo, neminis, m/f. - <i>no one</i><br/>sum, esse, fui - <i>be</i><br/>natura, -ae, f. - <i>character</i><br/>ille, illa, illud - <i>that, those</i></p> <p>4 vitium, -ii, n. - <i>fault</i><br/>non - <i>not</i><br/>aetas, -atis, f. - <i>age</i><br/>sum, esse - <i>be</i></p> |
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## Section D

- 4 post crepusculum statim adrepto pilleo
- 5 vel galero popinas inibat circumque vicos vagabatur
- 6 ludibundus nec sine pernicie tamen,

- 4 post + acc. - *after*  
 crepusculum, -i, n. - *dusk, twilight*  
 statim - *immediately*  
 adripio, -ere, -ui, adreptus - *seize,*  
*grab*  
 pilleum, -i, n. - *hat*
- 5 vel - *or*  
 galerus, -i, m. - *wig*  
 popina, -ae, f. - *tavern*

- ineo, -ire - *enter, visit*  
 circum + acc - *around* (-que – *and*)  
 vicus, -i, m. - *street*  
 vagor, -ari - *wander*
- 6 ludibundus, -a, -um - *in playful mood*  
 nec - *not*  
 sine + abl. - *without*  
 pernicies, -ei, f. - *mischief*  
 tamen - *however*

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## Section D

- 6 siquidem redeuntes a  
7 cena verberare ac repugnantes vulnerare cloacisque  
8 demergere assuerat, tabernas etiam effringere et expilare;  
9 quintana domi constituta, ubi partae et ad licitationem  
10 dividendae praedae pretium absumeretur.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>6 siquidem - <i>if, if indeed</i><br/>redeo, -ire - <i>return</i><br/>a/ab + abl. - <i>from</i></p> <p>7 cena, -ae, f. - <i>dinner</i><br/>verbero, -are - <i>attack</i><br/>ac - <i>and</i><br/>repugno, -are - <i>fight back</i><br/>vulnero, -are - <i>stab, wound</i><br/>cloaca, -ae, f. - <i>sewer, drain</i><br/>(-que – <i>and</i>)</p> <p>8 demergo, -ere - <i>plunge, drop</i><br/>assuesco, -ere, -evi - <i>accustomed to</i><br/>taberna, -ae, f. - <i>shop</i><br/>etiam - <i>also</i><br/>effringo, -ere - <i>break in</i><br/>et - <i>and</i></p> | <p>expilo, -are - <i>plunder, rob</i></p> <p>9 quintana, -ae, f. - <i>street market</i><br/>domus, -us, f. - <i>home</i><br/>domi – <i>at home</i><br/>constituo, -ere, -ui, constitutus -<br/><i>organise</i><br/>ubi - <i>when</i><br/>pario, -ere, peperit, partus - <i>create,</i><br/><i>acquire</i><br/>et - <i>and, also</i><br/>ad + acc. - <i>with regard to, for</i><br/>licitatio, -ionis, f. - <i>bidding (as at an</i><br/><i>auction)</i></p> <p>10 divido, -ere - <i>divide, distribute</i><br/>praeda, -ae, f. - <i>plunder, spoils</i><br/>pretium, -ii, n. - <i>proceeds</i><br/>absumo, -ere - <i>squander, waste</i></p> |
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## Section E

- Nero began his reign of slaughter with Claudius; though not responsible for his death, he was certainly aware of it, nor did he pretend otherwise, as he used to praise mushrooms, (in which the poison had been administered) as the 'food of the gods', according to the Greek proverb. He poisoned
- 5 Britannicus, out of envy of his voice and through fear that the boy was held in more affection by the people because of the memory of his father. The poison came from Locusta, an expert poisoner; and as it acted too slowly (having only a laxative effect on Britannicus), he beat the woman complaining that she had administered medicine rather than poison. She
- 10 explained she had used a milder dose to avoid suspicion. Nero made her mix more which he tried on goats and pigs until the animals died. The potion was added to Britannicus' wine, and he dropped dead immediately, while Nero explained that this was due to seizures which he had suffered from for years.

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## Section F

When he was first emperor, Nero felt so weighed down by his mother's influence that he threatened to remove all her power and then expelled her from his palace. He continued to threaten her with lawsuits until she left Rome for Baiae where he continually sent people to drive and sail past her house while shouting abuse and mocking her. At last, he decided to kill her, but discovered that she had been taking antidotes, so poison did not work. Firstly, he arranged for her bedroom ceiling to fall on her, but she learnt of the plot; he then contrived a collapsible cabin on a boat and invited her to dinner near Baiae promising reconciliation. He had the vessel which brought her wrecked and offered her the booby-trapped boat for her return journey. The next morning, news was brought to him that the plan had failed; his mother had swum to safety. Nero sent men to kill his mother and claimed it was suicide. He then disposed of his aunt, Domitia.

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**Section G**

- 1 uxores praeter Octaviam duas postea duxit, Poppaeam
- 2 Sabinam quaestorio patre natam et equiti Romano antea
- 3 nuptam.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 uxor, -oris, f. - <i>wife</i></li> <li>praeter + acc. - <i>besides</i></li> <li>Octavia, -ae, f. - <i>Octavia, the daughter of Claudius, Nero's first wife</i></li> <li>duo, -ae, -o - <i>two</i></li> <li>postea - <i>afterwards</i></li> <li>duco, -ere, duxi – <i>lead</i></li> <li>uxores duxit – <i>he married wives</i></li> <li>Poppaea, -ae, f. - <i>Poppaea</i></li> <li>2 Sabina, -ae, f. - <i>Sabina</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>quaestorius, -ii, m. - <i>a former quaestor (Roman magistrate)</i></li> <li>pater, -tris, m. - <i>father</i></li> <li>nata, -ae, f. - <i>daughter</i></li> <li>et - <i>and</i></li> <li>eques, -itis, m. - <i>a member of the equestrian order (Roman business class)</i></li> <li>Romanus, -a, -um - <i>Roman</i></li> <li>antea - <i>before this, formerly</i></li> <li>3 nubo, -ere, nupsi, nuptus - <i>marry</i></li> </ul> |
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## Section G

- 3            deinde Statiliam Messalinam Tauri bis consulis ac  
4 triumphalis abnepsem. qua ut poteretur, virum eius Atticum  
5 Vestinum consulem in honore ipso trucidavit.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>3 deinde - <i>then</i><br/>Statilia, -ae, f. - <i>Statilia</i><br/>Messalina, -ae, f. - <i>Messalina</i><br/>Taurus, -i, m. - <i>Taurus (ancestor of Statilia Messalina)</i><br/>bis - <i>twice</i><br/>consul, -is, m. - <i>consul</i><br/>ac - <i>and</i></p> <p>4 triumphalis, -e - <i>having triumphal status</i><br/>abneptis, -is, f. - <i>great-great-granddaughter</i><br/>qui, quae, quod - <i>who, which</i></p> | <p>ut + subjunctive - <i>so that</i><br/>potior, potiri + abl - <i>acquire, take possession of</i><br/>vir, viri, m. - <i>husband</i><br/>is, ea, id - <i>he, she, it</i><br/>Atticus -i, m. - <i>Atticus</i></p> <p>5 Vestinus, -i, m. - <i>Vestinus</i><br/>consul, -is, m. - <i>consul</i><br/>in + abl - <i>in</i><br/>honor, -oris, m. - <i>reward</i><br/>ipse, ipsa, ipsum - <i>himself</i><br/>trucido, -are, -avi - <i>murder</i></p> |
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## Section G

5

Octaviae

6 consuetudinem cito aspernatus, corripientibus amicis

7 'sufficere illi debere' respondit 'uxoria ornamenta.'

5 Octavia, -ae, f. - *Octavia*

6 consuetudo, -inis, f. - *intimacy*

cito - *quickly*

aspernor, -ari, aspernatus sum -  
*reject, refuse*

corripio, -ere - *criticise, reproach*

amicus, -i, m. - *friend*

7 sufficio, -ere - *be enough*

ille, illa, illud - *that, those, him, her, it*

debeo, -ere - *ought*

respondeo, -ere, -di - *answer*

uxorius, -a, -um - *of a wife*

ornamentum, -i, n. - *trappings,  
ornaments*

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## Section G

7

eandem

8 mox saepe frustra strangulare meditatus, dimisit ut sterilem,

9 sed improbante divortium populo nec parcente conviciis,

10 etiam relegavit,

7 idem, eadem, idem - *the same*

8 mox - *soon*

saepe - *several times, often*

frustra - *in vain*

strangulo, -are - *strangle*

meditor, -ari, meditatus sum -  
*consider*

dimitto, -ere, misi - *divorce, send  
away*

ut - *as*

sterilis, -e - *unable to have children*

9 sed - *but*

improbo, -are - *disapprove*

divortium, -ii, n. - *divorce*

populus, -i, m. - *the people, multitude*

nec - *nor*

parco, -ere - *hold back, refrain from*

convicium, -i, n. - *complaint*

10 etiam - *even, also*

relego, -are, -avi - *exile*

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## Section G

- 10 denique occidit sub crimine adulteriorum adeo  
11 impudenti falsoque, ut in quaestione pernegantibus cunctis  
12 Anicetum paedagogum suum indicem subiecerit, qui fingeret  
13 dolo stupratam a se fateretur.

- 10 denique - *at last*  
occido, -ere, occidi - *execute*  
sub + abl. - *under, subject to*  
crimen, -inis, n. - *accusation*  
adulterium, -i, n. - *adultery*  
adeo - *so*  
11 impudens, -entis - *shameless*  
falsum, -i, n. - *falsehood, lie*  
(-que – *and*)  
ut + subjunctive - *that*  
in + abl. - *in*  
quaestio, -ionis, f. - *interrogation, torture*  
pernego, -are - *strongly deny*  
cunctus, -a, -um - *all, everyone*

- 12 Anicetus, -i, m. - *Anicetus*  
paedagogus, -i, m. - *slave in charge of a boy's education*  
suus, -a, -um. - *his, hers, its*  
index, -icis, m. - *witness*  
subicio, -ere, -ieci - *bribe*  
qui, quae, quod - *who*  
fingo, -ere - *invent, lie*  
13 dolus, -i, m. - *trickery*  
stupro, -are, -avi, stupratus - *have an affair*  
a/ab + abl. - *by*  
se, sui - *him*  
fateor, -eri - *confess, reveal*

## Section G

- 13 Poppaeam duodecimo die post  
14 divortium Octaviae in matrimonium acceptam dilexit unice; et  
15 tamen ipsam quoque ictu calcis occidit, quod se ex  
16 aurigatione sero reversum grava et aegra conviciis  
17 incesserat.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>13 Poppaea, -ae, f. - <i>Poppaea</i><br/>duodecimus, -a, -um - <i>twelfth</i><br/>dies, -ei, m/f. - <i>day</i><br/>post + acc. - <i>after</i></p> <p>14 divortium, -ii, n. - <i>divorce</i><br/>Octavia, -ae, f. - <i>Octavia</i><br/>in + acc. - <i>in, into</i><br/>matrimonium, -ii, n. - <i>marriage</i><br/>accipio, -ere, -cepi, acceptus - <i>receive</i><br/>diligo, -ere, -exi - <i>love, adore</i><br/>unice - <i>a great deal</i><br/>et - <i>also</i></p> <p>15 tamen - <i>however</i><br/>ipse, ipsa, ipsum - <i>herself, himself, itself</i><br/>quoque - <i>also</i></p> | <p>ictus, -us, m. - <i>kick</i><br/>calx, calcis, f. - <i>heel</i><br/>occido, -ere, occidi - <i>kill</i><br/>quod - <i>because</i><br/>se (acc. se) - <i>himself, herself, itself</i><br/>ex + abl. - <i>from</i></p> <p>16 aurigatio, -ionis, f. - <i>a chariot race</i><br/>sero – <i>late, too late</i><br/>revertor, -i, reversus sum - <i>return</i><br/>gravidus, -a, -um - <i>pregnant</i><br/>et - <i>and</i><br/>aeger, -ra, -rum - <i>ill</i><br/>convicium, -i, n. - <i>complaint, rebuke</i></p> <p>17 incedo, -ere, incesi - <i>encounter, approach</i></p> |
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### Section G

17 ex hac filiam tulit Claudiam Augustam amisitque  
 18 admodum infan-tem.

17 ex + abl. - *from*  
 hic, haec, hoc - *this*  
 filia, -ae, f. - *daughter*  
 fero, ferre, tuli - *produce*  
 Claudia, -ae, f. - *Claudia*

Augusta, -ae, f. - *Augusta*  
 amitto -ere, amisi - *lose* (-que – *and*)  
 18 admodum - *very*  
 infans, -tis – *(as a) baby, (as a) young  
 child*

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## Section H

Nero drove his tutor, Seneca, to suicide even though the old man frequently begged to retire and offered to give him his estates. In place of cough medicine which he had promised, Nero sent poison to Burrus, the prefect of the guard. He was no less cruel to those outside his household. After a

- 5 comet foretold the death of a prominent person, Nero, advised by his astrologer, executed a large number of the nobility to avert the omen. This was an easy decision because he had recently discovered two conspiracies against him. The alleged conspirators were arrested and admitted their plot, saying that there was no way to help a man as evil as Nero, except to kill
- 10 him. All the children of the conspirators were banished from Rome and then killed by poison or starvation.

## Notes

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## Section I

He showed no greater concern for the people and, pretending that the ugliness of the buildings and the narrow, winding streets of Rome offended him, he set fire to the city so openly that several former consuls spotted his closest slaves on their property with kindling and blazing torches but dared

5 not stop them. Nero also coveted the sites of the stone granaries near the Golden House. He demolished them with siege engines and set them alight. The disastrous fire raged for six days and seven nights and people were compelled to take refuge in tombs. As well as the large number of tenements which burned down, the houses of former leaders, still adorned with the

10 spoils of war, were burnt, as were the temples of the gods back to the time of the kings and every memorable monument from antiquity that had survived. Nero watched the fire from the gardens of Maecenas and delighted, as he said, by the 'beauty of the fire', he sang 'The Sack of Troy' while wearing his tragedian's costume

## Notes

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*In AD 68, the general Galba and the Spanish provinces revolted against him. Nero was inconsolable, and he was soon plagued by omens and dreams which were not favourable to him.*

## Section J

- 1 nuntiata interim etiam ceterorum exercituum defectione
- 2 litteras prandenti sibi redditas concerpsit.

1 nuntio, -are, -avi, nuntiatus -  
*announce, bring word*  
interim - *meanwhile*  
etiam - *also, even*  
ceterum, -i, n. - *the rest*  
exercitus, -us, m. - *army*  
defectio, -ionis, f. - *revolt*

2 littera, -ae, f. - *letter*  
prandeo, -ere - *eat breakfast*  
se, sui - *himself*  
reddo, -ere, -idi, redditus - *deliver*  
concerpo, -ere, concerpsi - *tear up, rip*

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## Section J

- 2 sumpto a Locusta
- 3 veneno et in auream pyxidem condito transiit in hortos
- 4 Servilianos, et tribunos centurionesque praetorii de fugae
- 5 societate temptavit.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>2 sumo, -ere, -psi, sumptus - <i>obtain</i><br/>a/ab + abl. - <i>from</i><br/>Locusta, -ae, f. - <i>Locusta</i></p> <p>3 venenum, -i, n. - <i>poison</i><br/>et - <i>and</i><br/>in + acc. - <i>into</i><br/>aureus, -a, -um - <i>golden</i><br/>pyxidis, -idis, f. - <i>little box</i><br/>condo, -ere, -idi, conditus - <i>hide</i><br/>transeo, -ire, -ii - <i>go across</i><br/>in + acc. - <i>into</i><br/>hortus, -i, m. - <i>garden</i></p> | <p>4 Servilianus, -a, -um - <i>belonging to Servilius</i><br/>et - <i>and</i><br/>tribunus, -i, m. - <i>tribune</i><br/>centurio, -ionis, m. - <i>centurion</i><br/>(-que - <i>and</i>)<br/>praetorius, -i, m. - <i>the praetorian guard</i><br/>de + abl. - <i>about</i><br/>fuga, -ae, f. - <i>escape</i></p> <p>5 societas, -atis, f. - <i>fellowship, ie together</i><br/>tempto, -are, -avi - <i>urge</i></p> |
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## Section J

- 5                    sed partim tergiversantibus, partim aperte  
6 detrectantibus, uno vero etiam proclamante: 'usque adeone  
7 mori miserum est?' varie agitavit sed tandem obdormivit.

5 sed - *but*  
partim ... partim - *some ... others*  
tergivor, -ari - *decline, refuse*  
aperte - *openly*

6 detrecto, -are - *refuse*  
unus, -a, -um - *one*  
vero - *in truth*  
etiam - *even, also*  
proclamo, -are - *declare*  
usque - *at this point, to this point*

adeo - *so, so (much)*

7 morior, mori - *die*  
miser, -a, -um - *wretched*  
sum, esse - *be*  
varie - *in various ways*  
agito, -are, -avi - *be distressed*  
varie agitavit – *he was greatly distressed*  
sed - *but*  
tandem - *at last*  
obdormio, -ire, -ivi - *fall asleep*

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## Section J

- 7 sic
- 8 cogitatione in posterum diem dilata ad mediam fere noctem
- 9 excitatus, ut comperit stationem militum recessisse, prosiluit e
- 10 lecto misitque circum amicos, et quia nihil a quoquam
- 11 renuntiabatur, ipse cum paucis hospitia singulorum adiit.

- 7 sic - *in this way, so*
- 8 cogitatio, -ionis, f. - *decision*  
in + acc. - *to, until*  
posterus, -a, -um - *following*  
dies, -ei, m/f. - *day*  
differo, differe, distuli, dilatus - *put off, postpone*  
ad + acc. - *to, towards*  
medius, -a, -um - *middle*  
fere - *about*  
nox, noctis, f. - *night*
- 9 excito, -are, -avi, excitatus - *wake up*  
ut + indicative - *when*  
comperio, -ire, comperi - *find, discover*  
statio, -ionis, f. - *bodyguard*  
miles, -itis, m. - *soldier*  
recedo, -ere, -cessi - *withdraw, retire*  
prosilio, -ire, -ui - *jump, leap*
- 10 e + abl. - *out of*  
lectus, -i, m. - *bed*  
mitto, -ere, misi - *send, send for*  
(-que - *and*)  
circum + acc. - *around*  
amicus, -i, m. - *friend*  
et - *and*  
quia - *because*  
nihil - *nothing*  
a + abl. - *from*  
quisquam, quaequam, quodquam - *anyone, anything*
- 11 renuntio, -are - *report back*  
ipse, ipsa, ipsum - *himself, herself, itself*  
cum + abl. - *with*  
paucus, -a, -um - *few*  
hospitium, -i, n. - *here: house*  
singulus, -a, -um - *each*  
adeo, -ire, -ii - *go to, approach*
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## Section J

- 12 verum clausis omnium foribus, respondente nullo, in  
13 cubiculum rediit, unde iam et custodes diffugerant, direptis  
14 etiam stragulis, amota et pyxide veneni; ac statim Spiculum  
15 murmillonem vel quemlibet alium percussorem, cuius manu  
16 periret, requisivit et nemine reperto:

- 12 verum - *indeed, here: however*  
claudio, -ere, -si, clausus - *close*  
omnis, -e - *all, every*  
foris, foris, f. - *door*  
respondeo, -ere - *answer*  
nullus, -a, -um - *no one*  
in + acc. - *into, to*  
13 cubiculum, -i, n. - *bedroom*  
redeo, -ire, -ii - *return*  
unde - *from where*  
iam - *by now, already*  
et - *even, also*  
custos, -odis, m. - *guard*  
diffugio, -ere, diffugi - *scatter, flee in*  
*different directions*  
diripio, -ere, -ui, direptus - *snatch*  
*away, plunder*  
14 etiam - *even, also*  
stragulum, -i, n. - *bed-linen*

- amoveo, -ere, amovi, amotus -  
*remove*  
et - *and, also*  
pyxis, -idis, f. - *little box*  
venenum, -i, n. - *poison*  
ac - *and*  
statim - *immediately*  
Spiculum, -i, m. - *Spiculum*  
15 murmillonem, -onis, m. - *gladiator*  
vel - *or*  
quemlibet, quaelibet, quodlibet - *some,*  
*any*  
alius, alia, aliud - *other*  
percussor, -oris, m. - *murderer*  
qui, quae, quod - *who*  
manus, -us, f. - *hand*  
16 pereo, -ire - *perish, die*  
requiro, -ere, -sui - *search for*  
nemo, neminis, n. - *no one*  
reperio, -ire, reperi, repertus - *find*

**Section J**

16 'ergo ego,' inquit, 'nec  
 17 amicum habeo nec inimicum?' procurritque, quasi  
 18 praecipitatus se in Tiberim.

16 ergo - *so, in this way*  
 ego - *I*  
 inquit - *he/she said*  
 nec ... nec – *neither ... nor*  
 17 amicus, -i, m. - *friend*  
 habeo, -ere - *have*  
 inimicus, -i, m. - *enemy*  
 procurro, -ere - *rush forward*  
 (-que – *and*)

quasi - *as if*  
 18 praecipito, -are, -avi, praecipitatus -  
*throw headlong*  
 se, sui - *himself, herself, itself*  
 in + acc. - *into*  
 Tiberis, -is, m. - *river Tiber, the river*  
*running through Rome (acc. Tiberim)*

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## Section K

Nero then asked for a secluded place in which to gather his thoughts. His freedman, Phaon, offered his own suburban villa, four miles from Rome. So barefoot and wearing only a tunic, Nero threw on a faded travelling-cloak, covered his head and holding a cloth in front of his face, mounted

5 his horse with only four attendants. Immediately he was frightened by an earth tremor and a flash of lightning, and heard the shouting of soldiers in a nearby camp who were prophesying defeat for him and victory for Galba. One passer-by said, 'These fellows are pursuing Nero', and another asked 'Is there any news about Nero from the city?' Then his

10 horse was frightened by the smell of a corpse that had been thrown out at the side of the road, causing Nero to drop his face-covering. He was then saluted by a praetorian veteran. At last they came to the back entrance to the villa; they left their horses and followed an overgrown path to the rear wall of the house. When the slaves had tunnelled through the wall,

15 Nero crawled in and lay down in a meagre bedroom with an old cloak spread over him.

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## Section L

- 1 tunc scrobem coram fieri imperavit dimensus ad corporis sui
- 2 modulum, componique simul, si qua invenirentur, frustra
- 3 marmoris et aquam simul ac ligna conferri curando mox
- 4 cadaveri, flens ad singula atque identidem dictitans:

- 1 tunc - *then*  
scrobis, -is, m. - *grave, ditch*  
coram - *in front of him*  
fio, fieri - *be made*  
impero, -are, -avi - *order, command*  
dimetior, -iri, dimensus sum -  
*measure*  
ad + acc. - *to, according to*  
corpus, -oris, n. - *body*  
suus (gen. sui) - *his, her, its (own)*
- 2 modulus, -i, m. - *size*  
compono, -ere - *place, arrange*  
(-que – *and*)  
simul - *at the same time*  
si - *if*  
qua - *in whatever way, however*  
si qua – *if somehow*  
invenio, -ire - *find*

- frustum, -i, n. - *piece, lump*
- 3 marmor, -oris, n. - *marble*  
et - *and*  
aqua, -ae, f. - *water*  
simul - *at the same time*  
ac - *and*  
lignum, -i, n. - *wood, firewood*  
confero, conferre - *bring*  
curo, -are - *care*  
mox - *soon, immediate*
- 4 cadaver, -eris, n. - *corpse*  
fleo, -ere - *weep*  
ad + acc. - *at*  
singulus, -a, -um - *each*  
atque - *and*  
identidem - *again and again,*  
*repeatedly*  
dictito, -are - *say repeatedly, repeat*

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## Section L

- 4  
5 artifex pereō! ferrum iugulo adegit iuvante Epaphrodito a  
6 libellis.

'qualis

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>4 qualis, -e - <i>such, of such a sort</i><br/>5 artifex, -icis, m. - <i>artist</i><br/>    qualis artifex – <i>how great an artist!</i><br/>pereō, -ire - <i>die</i><br/>ferrum, -i, n. - <i>sword</i><br/>iugulum, -i, n. - <i>throat</i></p> | <p>adigo, -ere, -egi - <i>force, drive</i><br/>iuvo, -are - <i>help</i><br/>Epaphroditus, -i, m. - <i>Epaphroditus</i><br/>    (<i>one of Nero's freedmen</i>)<br/>a + abl. - <i>from</i><br/>6 libellus, -i, m. - <i>little book, pamphlet</i><br/>    a libellis - <i>secretary</i></p> |
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## Section L

- 6 semianimisque adhuc irrumpenti centurioni et paenula  
 7 ad vulnus adposita in auxilium se venisse simulanti non aliud  
 8 respondit quam: 'sero' et: 'haec est fides.'

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 6 semianimis, -e - <i>half alive</i><br>(-que – <i>and</i> )<br>adhuc - <i>still, as yet</i><br>irrumpo, -ere - <i>burst in</i><br>centurio, -ionis, m. - <i>centurion</i><br><i>(commander of a century)</i><br>et - <i>and</i><br>paenula, -ae, f. - <i>cloak</i> | auxilium, -ii, n. - <i>help</i><br>se - <i>he, himself</i><br>venio, -ire, -i - <i>come</i><br>simulo, -are - <i>pretend</i><br>non - <i>not</i><br>alius, alia, aliud - <i>other</i>                             |
| 7 ad + acc. - <i>on</i><br>vulnus, -eris, n. - <i>wound</i><br>adpono, -ere, adposui, adpositus -<br><i>apply to, place on</i><br>in + acc. - <i>to</i>   | 8 respondeo, -ere, -i - <i>answer, reply</i><br>quam - <i>than</i><br>sero – <i>late, too late</i><br>et - <i>and</i><br>hic, haec, hoc - <i>this</i><br>sum, esse - <i>be</i><br>fides, -ei, f. - <i>loyalty</i> |

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## Section L

- 8   atque in ea voce  
 9 deficit, extantibus rigentibusque oculis usque ad horrorem  
 10 formidinemque visentium.

- 8 atque - *and*  
 in + abl. - *in*  
 is, ea, id - *this*  
 vox, vocis, f. - *voice*  
 9 deficio, -ere, -feci - *die*  
 exto, -are - *bulge*  
 rigeo, -ere - *glaze, be lifeless*  
 (-que – *and*)

- oculus, -i, m. - *eye*  
 usque - *up to (this point)*  
 ad + acc. - *to*  
 horror, -oris, m. - *horror, fear*  
 10 formido, -inis, f. - *fear, terror*  
 video, -ere, vidi, visus - *see*

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## Section L

- 10 nihil prius aut magis a comitibus  
11 exegerat quam ne potestas cuiquam capitis sui fieret, sed ut  
12 quoquo modo totus cremaretur.

- 10 nihil - *nothing*  
prius - *beforehand*  
aut - *or*  
magis - *more*  
a/ab + abl. - *from*  
comes, -itis, m. - *companion*  
11 exigo, -ere, -egi - *demand*  
quam - *than*  
ne + subjunctive – *so that ... not*  
potestas, -atis, f. - *power, control,*  
*chance*

- quisquam, quaequam, quodquam -  
*anyone, anything*  
caput, -itis, n. - *head*  
suus, sua, suum - *his, hers, its*  
fio, fieri - *be made, occur, happen*  
sed - *but*  
ut + subjunctive - *that*  
12 quoquo - *whatever*  
modus, -i, m., - *way, means*  
quoquo modo – *by whatever means*  
totus, -a, -um - *whole*  
cremo, -are - *cremate, burn*

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**Section L**

- 12 permisit hoc Icelus, Galbae
- 13 libertus, non multo ante vinculis exolutus, in quae primo
- 14 tumultu coniectus fuerat.

- 12 permitto, -ere, -misi - *permit, allow*  
 hic, haec, hoc - *this*  
 Icelus, -i, m. – *Icelus (a freedman of Galba)*  
 Galba, -ae, m. - *Servius Sulpicius Galba, general who became emperor for 7 months after Nero's death*
- 13 libertus, -i, m. - *freedman*  
 non - *not*  
 multo - *much*  
 ante - *beforehand, before*

- vinculum, -i, n. - *chain*  
 exsolvo, -ere, -i, exsolutus - *release, set free*  
 vinculis exolutus – *released from chains (i.e. from prison)*  
 in + acc. - *into*  
 qui, quae, quod - *which*  
 primus, -a, -um - *first*
- 14 tumultus, -us, m. - *revolt, uprising*  
 conicio, -ere, -eci, coniectus – *throw*  
 coniectus fuerat – *he had been thrown (into prison)*

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## Section M

- Nero was buried at a cost of two hundred thousand sesterces, wrapped in white robes embroidered with gold. His nurses Egloge and Alexandria, and his mistress Acte, laid his remains in the Domitian family tomb on the Hill of the Gardens which can be seen from the Campus Martius. Nero died in his
- 5 thirty second year, on the anniversary of the day on which he had killed his first wife, Octavia. There was such widespread public rejoicing that the people ran through the city wearing caps of liberty; however, for a long time afterwards people decorated his tomb with spring and summer flowers and raised statues to him.

## Notes

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